THE ARBITRATORS.

Interesting Biographical Sketches of the Men Who Sit in Judgment on Our Case.

SCLOPIS, ITAJUBA, STAEMPFLI.

The Herald Correspondents' Interviews with the Count, the Baron and the Citizen.

ADAMS AND COCKBURN

Sketch of Prof. Favrot, Secretary to the Tribunal of Arbitration.

Below we give long and interesting sketches of Count Sciopis, of Italy, the President of the Geneva Court of Arbitration; Baron d'Itajuba, of Brazil, and Citizen Staempfli, of Switzerland, the three gentlemen associated with Sir Alexander Cockburn and Charles Francis Adams, and composing the Geneva Tribunal which is to sit in judgment on the Alabama claims. These biographical sketches will prove of interest at the present time, and as they have been gleaned from notes and information obtained from the members of the Court themselves specially for publication in the columns of the Herald they can be fully relied upon. The interviews between the Italian, Brazilian and Swiss arbitrators and the HERALD correspondents will men have made a close and impartial study of the case presented to them for decision, and as the people of the United States claim nothing but justice at their hands, they may rest fully assured that its full measure will be honorably and sairly dealt out.

Count Sclopis, the Italian Representative. President of the Geneva Tribunal.

TURIN, Italy, May 27, 1872. The President of the Court of Arbitration appointed to assemble at Geneva is Count Paolo Federigo Sclopis di Salerano, the Commissione

appointed by the King of Italy.

Count Sciopis is a native of the city of Turin. Born in the year 1798, he has attained his seventyfourth year. He is the son of a celebrated jurist, the Count Alessandro Sciopis. The mother was a Countess Gabriella Peyretti di Condove. The father has left behind the record of an accomplished gentieman, and it is said of his writings that they bore evidence of greater intimacy than possesse by any of his contemporaries with the hidden beauties of Latin classics. The mother, belonging to a renowned family, is represented likewise as lady of high culture, uniting all the traditional qualities of her sex with a masculine mind. The son had, therefore, the advantages of a home affording early and ample opportunites to lay the foundation for a superior education.

Federigo Sclopis studied jurisprudence at the University of his native city, and, already, at the early age of twenty, received his diploma as doctorat-law. About one year later he was admitted to the bar and shortly afterwards accepted an appointment in the Department of the Minister of ments, was at that period at the head of the Ministry; he recognized in young Sclopis rare talents. combined with an immense aptitude for business, and took the warmest interest in bringing out the young man. It was under these auspices that Count Sciopis became associated with men who under the guidance of Cavour, have in later life rendered such eminent services to the Italian

In the year 1821 King Charles Albert came to the throne of Piedmont, Turin being then the capital thereof. That sovereign, while Crown Prince, was supposed to hold views highly favorable to the liberal party; but, from the very moment he came into power, he exposed that party to a course of bitter disappointment. Charles Albert threw him-self into the arms of the clericals and deserted the ranks of the liberals. For a time the latter were thus deprived of all hope of success. Federico Sclopis shared but little in the common feeling of disappointment. In his judgment the proper time for action had not then been reached; the mind of the people had not yet matured; the country was liberal institutions. He did not consider the cause of liberty irrevocably lost. Notwithstanding his patience, and for a long time Sclopis maintained the attitude of a silent and patient observer. He did not interrupt his studies, and thus successfully paved the way for future action. During that period he continued in search of that knowledge which qualified him afterwards to take a promi nent place in the ranks of the pioneers of Italian unity.

the year 1833, when he published a history of the ancient legislation of Piedmont. This led to the publication of a still more important work, and in 1840 appeared the first volume of the "History of Italian Legislation." That work revealed the author's mind; it showed the patient inquirer, the indefatigable investigator. Sclopis gave evi dence that from the very outset he had fully understood the duties and responsibilities devolving on the historian. With the firmness of a master haho

stood the duties and responsibilities devolving on the historian. With the firmness of a master hahd Count Sclopis has traced conscientiously the picture of the progress of legislation from the downfall of the Roman empire to the period when the Napoleonic dynasty succumbed. All the great social facts which occurred during that time are exposed and demonstrated with a minuteness denoting the acute sensitiveness of a fine critical mind. Truthtuiness prevails throughout his naratives, and one of the reviewers of the works of Count Sclopis says:—"Without fear of exaggeration it may be asserted that the work embodies the true philosophy of the history of Italian legislation."

The subject of Roman law necessarily occupies the main portion of the book. After demonstrating the origin of the law, as well as its development, M. Sclopis discloses a rich treasure of researches relative to the period of the infrasion of the barbarians and the subsequent consolidation of the empire in Western Europe and the countries where the Roman law was in force. M. Sclopis maintains that to all those who have studied history from the Middle Ages down to modern times it must become apparent that the influence of Roman law, although in its nature proper to favor democratic institutions, has always worked in an opposite direction, and proved injurious to the liberty of the people. The provisions of Roman law have furnished at all times and under all circumstances to princes and sovereigns the means whereby to crush the resistance offered by local or Individual power, no matter whether that resistance emanated from the people or whether it was generated in the castic. Those who have handled the law, it is true, have accelerated the death of feudalism, but that action has had the tendency at the same time to undermine the independence of communities. It has done more—it has destroyed local liberty; placed self-government out of the question, and, while subjecting all perions—individually and collectively—to a level of equality, the Roman l

government.

It is further shown on undoubted evidence, notably by the school of historians of which Savigny was the head and front, that the functions of Roman taw had never been stopped or interrupted, not withstanding the dreadful vicissitudes to which European countries have been subjected at various periods.

periods.

Count Sclopis, in his works, had limited himself to the task of depicting the contrast between the results obtained from the action of various systems of legislation, leaving it to the student to give preference to whichever side his imagination or his appreciation would direct him. Nevertheless, when the proper time had arrived, Count Sclopis was not found wanting. His public life has shown that he had not wavered in his opinions since the year 1821. When towards the end of 1847 that political storm loomed up which, in the succeeding year, swept all over Europe, shook the very founda-

tion of the monarchical system, and the throne of Charles Albert was theratened, like many others, the hour was near when a system of absolutism was compelled to make room for reform and admit the introduction of constitutional government. Charles Albert could no longer resist the pressure of popular outery; above all he had to grant a free press. A decree dated October 30, 1847, appointed Count Sclopis president of a commission whose bushness it was to draw up a press law. This was the first step towards reform. The only journal of any note which existed up to that period was the Messaguer Tosinese, but towards the middle of the month of December the appearance was sanctioned of two political journals—namely, the Risorginento and contributors of these papers appear Cavour, Cesare Balbo, Lorenzio Valerio, and other prominent politicians who since then have formed bright ornaments in the history of Italian independence.

The French revolution, in February, 1848, which sent King Louis Philippe into exile, produced an enormous sensation in Italy. Charles Albert narrowiv escaped the fate which beful the French King by timely concessions. The republic was proclaimed throughout France on February 28, and on or about the cith March the Piedmontese King was compelled to abandon his former advisers. Calling upon Cesare Balbo, a friend and companion since childhood of Sciopis, he sanctioned the formation of a uninistry whose programme stipulated freedom of the press, liberty of speech, recognition of the French republic, secularization of ecclesiastical relations, and so forth. Count Sciopis had a prominent seat in the new Cabinet. Ever since that period Count Sciopis has maintained the position of a prominent counselior in the affairs of his country, and taken high rank among the ablest of public servants. Towards the end of the year 1840 he entered the Sardinian Senate, and subsequently filled the oilice of Vice President of that body. After filling other emiment bostions he was finally raised to the light dignity of P

shares with nim the labors of investigating the "case."
I explained that, in order to acquit myself conscientiously of the task of making the public in America acquainted with the history and persons of the Geneva judges. I had taken the liberty of addressing myself personally to His Excellency. He readily acceded to my request, and the result of the information which I have obtained is substantially given in the above summary. After handing me a few notes, and the business object of my visit being accomplished, the Count entered into a general conversation on leading topics of the day. He asked me whether I knew it to be true that Mr. Adams had already proceeded to Geneva. My reply was in the affirmative, it being well known that our Commissioner had dined a few days before with the Prince and Princess of Wales, who were then so-journing at Geneva.

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I inquired of Count Sciopis whether he was aware of the actual stage at which negotiations had arrived respecting the treaty, but His Excellency assured me that he possessed no means whatsoever of ascertaining actual facts. I readily believe he knew nothing beyond the rumors which had renched the general public through vague telegraphic reports.

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Count Sciopis evinced a great desire to be made acquainted with the actual state of public opinion. Nothing seemed more natural than the expression of that desire, since there is no information which reaches this city from America except through British channels. The news which comes from the New World is filtered and translated in England, and in that way I explained to His Exceilency the great fuss which had been made about certain petitions submitted to the President of the United States regarding the withdrawal of what was styled "indirect claims." These petitions, to believe the Italian papers, embodied the opinion of the American people, but, I respectfully submitted, that was not the case. The city of New York, it was well known, had close business relations with England: some citizens of our great commercial metropolis were apprehensive that, in case of a failure occurring in the pending negotiations, the trade and commerce between the two countries might be exposed. Those who entertain these notions are naturally in favor of patching up an arrangement at all hazards. New York, I pointed out to His Excellency, was a city essentially cosmopolitan rather than national, giving shelter, as it did, to nationalities collected from all parts of the giobe. Yet, isolated reports from New York, which in most cases have to pass through an English filter, seemed to be accepted, as a general rule, as the opinion of the American people. Count Sciopis said that so far he had paid no attention whatever to the controversy going on outside, all his time had been taken up in sudying the voluminous docuthat so far he had paid no attention whatever to the controversy going on outside, all his time had been taken up in studying the voluminous documents. Indeed, he said, pointing to a huge mass of books, if you consider the work before us, you must at once perceive that we have not been idle, and that but little time was left for any other matter than the study of the "case." All those papers have been carefully studied, and everything has undergone a minute examination. When the Count spoke in the plural he referred to the gentleman above alluded to, a friend, who shared the labors, which it may be taken for granted have been arduous.

man above alluded to, a friend, who shared the labors, which it may be taken for granted have been arduous.

The personal appearance of Count Sclopis is graceful and pleasing. He has a head covered with rich, white hair, a clear, open countenance, with a high forchead. His manners are charming and dignified, denoting bonhomme and good feeling towards his fellow man, without intermingling it with that patronizing air displayed so often by men holding his position. Count Sclopis not only gave me the information I desired, but invited me to renew my visit in a few days, during which time he thought it might be possible for him to pick up a printed biography of his past life. The conversation was spread over nearly an hour, during which he asked me many questions which showed the deep interest he takes in American affairs, and that he had thoroughly mastered the spirit of our language. It has been erroneously stated elsewhere that none of the arbitrators had a knowledge of the English language. So far as Count Sclopis is concerned the report is not correct, but, on the contrary, his knowledge of English is unlimpeachable, though he speaks naturally with a strong accent.

Baron d'Itajuba, the Brazilian Representative. Paris, May 8, 1872.

The Baron d'Itajuba, the Brazilian Minister to France and one of the five Judges of the Geneva Tribunal, has not intruded much on the notice of the general public, but he is well known and his fame stands high in the diplomatic world. He was born in Brazil in the year 1805, and has consequently entered upon his sixty-seventh year. His birthplace is Minar, a small city situated in one of the provinces forming part of the emptre of Brazil. A provincial city of South America, especially at the beginning of the present century, was little calculated to offer scope sufficient to satisfy the ambition of an enterprising youth. It must have been extremely difficult in those days in any part of Brazil to satisfy even an ordinary thirst for learning, and nothing, therefore, would seem more natural than that those in search of the sources of knowedge should have turned towards some part of the Old World. Many young Brazilians looked upon it as an imperative necessity temporarily to leave the paternal roof for purposes of finishing their education in Europe. Among those was young Itajuba, who at an early age visited some of the principal colleges on the continent of Europe, and spent several years at the universities of Paris, to study jurisprudence and international law. It is well known that Paris offers to the student ample opportunities, not only to acquire a knowledge of Roman law, but the studies embraced in the code of various foreign countries. It is thus that the education, though probably less profound in some respects, offers the advantages of a wider scope and more amplitude of intellectual views to those who are willing to study. Young Itajuba seems to have fully comprehended the importance of those advantages. He proved an ardent student, and very shortly after returning to his native country it became apparent that, notwithstanding an extreme

youth, he had eminently qualified himself to

hold an important position among his fel-

low citizens. In the year 1830 M. d'Itajuba

was called to find the professorship of

jurisprudence at the University of Pernambuco.

He held that position until the year 1834, when the

failing health of a beloved wife made it imperative

to seek a more genial climate. Leaving the profes-

sor's chair, Baron d'Itajuba was induced to enter

the diplomatic career. The first appointment which

he received was that of Consul General to the Hanse Towns, and in that capacity he resided for

several years in the city of Hamburg. The mission ntrusted to him was one of great importance, both in a commercial and political point of view. At that period Hamburg was, and I believe it still holds hat position, the largest coffee market in Europe. On the other hand Brazil desired to foster emi gration from Germany; there was consequently a large field to display energy and intelligence. I had some time since the opportunity of meeting with several prominent merchants from the Hanseatic city. The conversation turning incidentally on the subject of the Alabama claims, the gentlemen referred to were unanimous in their praises of the Brazilian Envoy. They were eminently impressed with the significance of the appointment, and with the important services which Baron d'Itajuba would be able to render whenever the Conterence at Geneva should meet. In recognition of the efficiency with which he filled his post the Brazilian government soon extended the scope of their zealous and intelligent representative. Baron d'Itajuba received successively the appointment as Minister to the King of Hanover, to the King of Denmark and several of the minor Courts of Germany, till he was ultimately (I believe in 1850) named Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary near His Majesty the King of Prussia. That position he filled with great honor till the year 1867. At that period the Baron was further promoted, and appointed to fill the diplomatic mission at the Court of the Tulleries. He continues to enjoy the confidence of the Emperor and the government of Brazil, and Baron d'Itajuba represents his country vis-à-vis the republic of France.

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d'Itajuba represents his country vis-à-vis the republic of France.

The foregoing forms, of course, a mere outline of the Baron's career. I had often observed the Brazilian Minister on public occasions, but never had the privilege of a lengthy conversation. With the view of becoming better acquainted with him I resolved to wait on the Minister, and to learn, if possible, from his own lips, whether or not I had correctly sketched the outline above given.

Therefore I repaired to the Brazilian Legation, situated near the Parc de Monceau, Rue de Théheran No. 13. I was informed that his Excellency had just sat down to breakfast, but, added the servant, that does not occupy any great space of time; the Minister would, no doubt, be ready to receive me if I shortly called again. On my reappearance I was ushered into a small apartment, which evidently served as a study or library. The appointments all around me were simple, but full of taste and neatness. Everything in the room denoted order and method. His Excellency did not keep me waiting. I had hardly time to examine the bookcase, which seemed to contain nothing but works of international law and matter of kindred interest.

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I informed His Excellency of my mission, which I estimated to be one of peculiar interest, inasmuch as the American people were justly entitled to learn, through the medium of the press, something about the judges of their case. At the same time I informed him that I represented the New York Herald, and ventured to express an opinion that, whatsoever might ultimately be the issue of the pending trial, the whole country was placed under deep obligations towards those gentlemen who had undertaken the arduous labor connected with the investigation of our unfortunate differences.

His Excellency courteously compiled with my request, and in the main confirmed all the information I had been able to gather outside, with this exception, that he avoided mentioning anything that seemed to bring him prominently forward. It had never been his aim to seek public admiration, and he religiously adhered to a desire not to be exposed to public discussion. At any other period, when less weight of public business pressed upon him, the Baron said he was quite willing to give me a few notes in writing, so as to enable me to be minute and accurate. "But," he added, "I am so overwhelmed with work that I cannot promise to do so immediately. I will endeavor to find time when you again visit me in a week or two." In the meantime the Baron enumerated the sailent points of his long and varied experience in the diplomatic service, confirming substantially the statement above given, which, as already mentioned, I have been hibe to gather from outside information.

It will be seen that the services extend over eight and twenty years, during which period many important political changes have taken place in Europe, and consequently! I was induced to observe that His Excellency had evidently had ample opportunities to acquire a most thorough knowledge of European affairs.

Baron D'Itajura—Yes, I may truly say that I know Europe well. Moreover, I have had the privilege always to ma'niai

in their hands; they would have given it an impartial consideration, and pronounced judgment accordingly.

Correspondent—Your labors, Excellency, must have been arduous, and, calling forth as they do the thanks of the nation, it would be deplorable if all that work should prove useless.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—I am at all times much occupied with the current affairs of the Embassy, and there (pointing to a huge pile of books and documents) you see the extent of work before us. I have not nearly finished reading the entire mass of evidence, and every hour not occupied with work of daily routine is necessarily devoted to the study of the "case" and the documentary evidence.

Correspondent—Before taking leave of Your Excellency I must reiterate the assurance that I was unwilling to intrude on your privacy, but the immensity of interests involved should necessarily plead my apology.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—I shall be pleased to see you again when in Paris, but, as you well know, that mass of evidence demands a long and profound study to beht us to arrive at just and equitable conclusions.

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The personal appearance of Baron d'Itajuba is agreeable. He is of medium stature and carries his years well; seemingly he is of a wiry nature, and displays great energy of action. His Excelency has a frank, benevolent countenance; the eyes are keen and searching, but denote a warm, genial disposition. His conversation is sympathetic and remarkable for an entire absence of hauteur. His Excellency inspired me with the idea that, in case I had any private difficulty pending a settlement, I would have no hesitancy to abandon my interests, unconditionally, to the judgment of Baron d'Itajuba. I am impelled to express this idea from a strong conviction that he is one of those few men found willing to look a difficulty fair in the face. I am inclined to think that he would base his judgment not on the sound of words, or in the face. I am inclined to think that he would base his judgment not on the sound of words, or on legal quibbles. His deductions would depend on points of equity and his decision be given in a fearless, honest manner. This is the impression I carried away from the Brazilian Embassy. The intuition of men like Baron d'Itajuba is calculated to judge matters by a standard of high morality rather than by legal dogmas.

Mr. Jacob Staempfli, the Swiss Representative.

BERNE. Switzerland. June 1, 1872. The Executive of the Swiss Confederation, in conformity to the provision of the Alabama Treaty, appointed Mt. Staempfli, a prominent politician, and a gentleman who has filled at three different periods the office of President of the Confederation, o act as one of the judges at the Geneva Tribunal of Arbitration.

Mr. Jacob Staempfil was born in the year 1820, at small village named Schoepfen, situate in the Canton Berne. Being only in his fifty-second year, he i the youngest member of the tribunal. Unlike the other judges, Mr. Staempfii is a self-made man. His parents-plain country people-were unable to provide for an education other than that offered by the medium of the schoolmaster of a rural district. At an early age he entered the office of a village notary; but soon got tired, threw up the situation, and, crossing the Swiss borders, went into France for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the French language. For some time he worked hard for his living on a farm as a domestic servant, and never neglected an opportunity of instructing himself Returning to his native country he was enabled to commence a career and to study law under the guidance of Mr. William Snell. Towards the end of the year 1843 he had qualified himself as an advocat or furoprecher, and was duly admitted a member of the bar at Berne. He gained rapidly the reputation of a politician, holding extreme radical views. Though his occupation as a practical lawyer left him apparently but few leisure hours for outside work, he nevertheless turned his attention to journalism. In 1844 he appeared as chief editor of the Berner Zeitung, a journal established for the avowed purpose of obtaining a revision of the then axisting constitution. He was for radical reform.

fearlessly advocating a system of central federal ism. To those principles he has courageously adhered until the present day. In July, 1846, Mr. Staempfli was elected a member of the Council to his State; in that capacity assisted in framing a new constitution for the canton of Berne. Shortly after coming into office civil war broke out. Seven cantons made strenuous efforts to secede from the contederation, the questions at issue between the antagonistic parties being that of religion and education. Staempfil violently opposed the alleged right of secession, counselling not only a recourse to arms, but took himself an active part in the fight, which ended ultimately in bringing back the

ebellious cantons. Mr. Staempfli, with varied success, continued to take an active part in all the leading questions concerning the politics of his country. Unhesitatingly, never for a moment looking behind, he followed in

and active part in all the leading questions concerning the politics of his country. Unhesitatingly, never for a moment looking behind, he followed in the track he had commenced—namely, that of advocating reform and progress. Having filled with honor various offices of State as well as of the Confederation, ne was elected Vice President in the year 1855, and in the usual course of events he was elected President of the Confederation in the following year 1856. The constitution of Switzerland does not admit the re-election as President for two consecutive terms, the term being one year. But in 1869, Mr. Staempfli's turn came again; he was elected President and filled that office again and for the third time during the year 1802.

Since that period Mr. Staempfli has ceased to devote his attention exclusively to political matters, and became eminently useful in a commercial sphere of action. In the year 1844 he created a banking establishment at Berne, with branches at Zurich and elsewhere. Mr. Staempfli was elected President of the institution known as the "Federal Bank," or, to give the true German title, the "Fidegenoesische Bank," The bank building, opposite the railroad depot, is one of the principal buildings of the city of Berne, and it was here where I called upon the President of the bank. My conversation with the gentleman was of but short duration, Mr. Staempfli being a man of few words. He is evidently one of those few persons we meet on this side of the water who knows the value of time, and whose conversation is always to the point. He motioned me to a seat, and listened attentively to the matter which formed the object of my visit. Regretting that nothing had been published to which he could direct my attention with the view of obtaining information regarding his past life, he said that some two months ago an English publication had printed what professed to be a biography. Mr. Staempfli added that he was unacquainted with the author, nor was he ware of the sources from which that person had gathere

portunities to acquire a most thorough knowledge of European affairs.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—Yes, I may truly say that I know Europe well. Moreover, I have had the privilege always to ma'ntain an independent position. Happily I was never mixed up with the heat of party strife, and, from my standpoint, I have been able to take notes, and to observe, without exciting the jealousy of opposing parties.

Correspondent—It would be unbecoming in me to isk questions incompatible with your position as Judge; still, am I permitted to know whether it is likely that Your Excellency will put in an appearance at Geneva?

Baron D'ITAJUBA—We know absolutely nothing. There is no telling whether or not the conference is to take place. We have a solemn duty to perform, which consists in standing aioof from all outsides.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—It controversy has caused much irritation in the minds of the public on both sides.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—It is very unfortunate, the more so as there was no occasion for it. It ought to have been avoided.

Correspondent—Too much has been said and written on the subject.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—Just so, and it is astonishing to witness the amount of ignorance displayed; those who cry out the loudest khow apparently the least of the subject they are discussing.

Correspondent—The press in England has done much in fanning the fames of irritation, which has laid hold of public opinion.

Baron D'ITAJUBA—Precisely.

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Baron D'ITAJUBA—That is very unfortunate; it ought not to be so the case was there; in whatever way it presented itself; whatever construction it could bear—all that was not matter for public discussion. To expose the whole to premature and the proposition of seven were uttered Mr. Staempfil bouldy came.

moderation, and neid to the maxim that for a small country it seemed prudent "not to provoke the hour of peril, with insufficient forces at home and without hope of receiving aid from without"—when these views were uttered Mr. Staempfil boldly came forward, asserting that "when it appeared evident that the hour of peril was nearing it was far more preferable at once to face the danger rather than cowardly to await its ap roach."

That Mr. Staempfil firmly adheres to these views he has shown on more than one occasion. Thus he acted with equal firmness when the Prussian government raised a difficulty in regard to the sovereignty of the canton of Neufchatel. Threats were held out that 300,000 Prussians would march into Switzerland, and that threat was replied to by a general call to arms. The people of the canton of Berne took the initiative, saying, "We certainly prefer peace to war, but the Executive having exhausted all means to maintain an honorable peace we must forthwith prepare for war." It must not be supposed, however, that Mr. Staempfil is a sort of firebrand. Quite the reverse. He is cool, but determined. In support of this assertion an incident is referred to, which occurred during his last term of office in 1862. Under the First Napoleon, in the year 1804, Switzerland lost a small strip of land, known - as the Valley of Dappes. For more than half a century the Swiss authorities had not ceased to claim the restitution of that valley. But the government of France persistently refused to recognize, and the Parisians violently opposed the just demands made by the Switzers. Mr. Staempfil renewed the demand, and in December, 1862, the territory was restituted to the canton of Vaud. The success was due to the ability of Mr. Staempfil, but above all to the secrecy with which the negotiation had been conducted. In this connection I may mention that Mr. Staempfil has won again the admiration of his fellow citizens as regards the Alabama question. He has never been heard to breathe, publicly or privately, a word

Although wrapped up in silence, the general belief among his friends tends to prove that he deplores the publicity which has been given to the negotiations between the administration at Washington and the British government. However that may be, it is quite certain that vaciliation and want of decision are words not to be found in Mr. staempfil's dictionary. The whoie course of his life gives ample proof that when once arrived at a resolution he will stand by it, irrespective of consequences. "Under the circumstances," added a friend of Mr. Staempfil's, "you may judge for yourself what his ideas are about the pending uncertainty in regard to the Geneva arbitration."

The banking establishment over which Mr. Staempfil presides is the largest, and, I am told, the most prosperous in Switzeriand. Independent of his financial operations, Mr. Staempfil takes the greatest amount of interest in the development of the Swiss railroad system. To a stranger it would appear that railroads in Switzeriand were constructed, not for the use of the public, but for the benefit of hotel-keepers. There are no night trains in any part of the Confederation; there are but tew express trains, and the inconvenience of being compelled to travel by freight trains is greatly augmented by the fact that but few of the roads have a double track. The immediate consequence is that the roads do not enjoy a great degree of prosperity. Mr. Staempfil recommended, some years ago, the adoption of radical measures. He insisted that the fonly means to prevent further mischief would be found in the consolidation of the entire railway system, and, for that purpose, the central government to purchase the roads. So far Mr. Staempfil has not succeeded in overcoming the opposition with which he was met. The public debt of the Confederation is at present a mere nominal matter, and the railroad scheme would involve the necessity of borrowing at least \$100,000,000.

Sir Alexander Cockburn and Mr. Charles Francis Adams.

The selection of Sir Alexander Cockburn and Mr. Charles Francis Adams as the representatives of England and the United States at the Geneva Court of Arbitration has been eminently wise and prudent on the part of the two nations most interested in the result pending before the Court. These two gentiemen possess in an honorable de-gree the fullest confidence of the countries they rep-resent, and rank among the most distinguished cit-tzens of both nations. Sir Alexander Cockburn was resent, and rank among the most distinguished citizens of both nations. Sir Alexander Cockburn was promoted to the high position of Lord Chief Justice of England on the elevation of the late Lord Campbell to the Woolsack in 1859. Previous to the attainment of this lofty distinction he occupied the post of Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, a position to which he had been promoted in 1856 on the death of Chief Justice Jervis, his predecessor in office. He was Attorney General in 1851, and continued to hold that office until the dissolution of Lord John Russell's Ministry in the

spring of 1852, but on the formation of the coalition Cabinet he resumed his post. His memorable defence of the foreign policy of the late Lord Palmerston on the Pacific question proved him to be possessed of remarkable abilities as a debater. Up to this period he either had no opportunities or refrained from exercising the abilities he possessed as a logician. This speech, when delivered, was pronounced one of the most eloquent and successful ever delivered in the House of Commons.

Regarding Mr. Charles Francis Adams, so much has been said and written of him since his appointment as arbitrator, and so generally is his character, qualities and abilities understood in the United States, that it is unnecessary at this moment to reproduce what has already been printed in the columns of the Herald regarding him. His biography is already in the hands of our readers.

Professor Favrot, Secretary to the Tribunal of Arbitration. GENEVA, Switzerland, June 8, 1872.

The functions of the important office of Secretary to the Court of Arbitration have been entrusted to Professor Favrot, a resident of Berne. Alexander Favrot is a highly cultivated gentieman, a native of the canton of Neufchatel, about thirty-five years of age, who, while residing in England, during a period of seven years, acquired a thorough know-ledge of our language. Not being a politician, the name of Professor Favrot never appeared very prominently before the general public; but in his own home he has the reputation of a man of considerable literary attainments. He is renowned as a great linguist, and in that capacity the Professor is certain to prove himself eminently useful to the members of the Board of Arbitration, as well as to

Mr. Favrot is the nominee of Mr. Staempfli, the choice of a secretary having been gracefully ceded to the member appointed by Switzerland as an act of courtesy, in consideration of the fact that the Board depended to a very great extent on the hospitality of the Swiss people. Reference has already been made to the erroneous reports circulated in regard to the extent of knowledge of the English language possessed by the foreign arbitrators. The item involves considerations of the gravest nature. However bigh a degree of proficiency a person may attain in foreign languages, it must be readily conceded that it is exceedingly uncommon for men to think in the forms and moods of foreign language. Irresistibly we find as our thoughts assume words that they take more of our native country or that tongue which was acquired in the nursery, and speech becomes mere translation. Exceptions are of couse admissible, but as a rule man will preserve even under the most trying circumstances the use of the mother tongue.

Diplomatic intercourse ignores completely the Babel of tongues, and French has been adopted as the universal language in which diplomatic negotiations are usually carried on. To a certain extent that usage must, of necessity, obtain among the members of the Board of Arbitration. Yet it should be borne in mind that although all of them are proficient in French not a single member was born in France. It is probably a matter of speculation what amount of influence attaches to that fact. Without further inquiring into the question it will become apparent that the Secretary, Mr. Favrot,

become apparent that the Secretary, Mr. Favrot, holds a position of great trust, and that on him devolves an immense amount of responsibility.

It is gratifying to know that Professor Favrot is intimately acquainted with most of the living languages. I visited that gentleman at his residence in Berne a few days ago, and I deemed it no empty compliment when, at the fermination of a lengthy conversation, I was enabled to congratulate him on his nearly faultless English. Seldom have I neard a foreigner express himself with so much ease and elegance.

conversation, I was enabled to congratulate him on his nearly faultless English. Seldom have I neard a foreigner express himself with so much ease and elegance.

The deplorable manner in which public documents have often been transcribed by translators worked an incalculable amount of mischief in old and modern times. We need not go back far in history for facts. The Franco-German conflict abounds in numerous examples of a variegated character to illustrate the assertion. From the very outset French documents were translated into German in a manner which seemed to convey a total absence of courtesy, and thus irritated the nation, while, on the other hand, the text of German papers, when rendered in French, implied a meaning which could not be discovered in the original. The hurry, as well as the brevity, connected with telegraphic correspondence has generally served as an apology. But the mischief was done. It will be remembered that several days prior to the actual outbreak of hostilities the Prussian King, as reported by a Belgian journal, had alluded to the demands of the Emperor Napoleom as an "unheard-of insolence." No such words had ever been used. The German text ran thus:—"Die unerhölte Anmassung des Kaisers Napoleom." The careful translator would have said this: "The enormous pretensions oi, &c., &c. In lieu of that it was given as "Vinsolence inout," and that unwarranted interpretation caused an immense sensation throughout France, the people, of course, having no opportunity to refer to the original. Hundreds of examples can be cited of that character, and even of a more mischievous tendency. I took the liberty of calling Mr. Favrot's attention to this fact, and at the same time informed him that our people would regard it as a great source of satisfaction that the important oillee of Secretary had oeen entrusted to a gentleman possessed with a superior knowledge of foreign languages, and who was thus able to avoid the dangers alluded to.

The Court and the Duty It Has to Perform.

GENEVA, June 9, 1872. The balance of power, it will be conceived, rests, necessarily, with three foreign arbiters. It is, perhaps, not presumptive to suppose that Mr. Adams' judgment is likely to take the best view of the American side, while Sir Alexander Cockburn is equally likely to believe the British view of the case perfect as nearly as possible, and the judgment of both gentlemen might, in a general way, be regarded as not difficult to penetrate in advance. Neither the British nor the American lawyers will much hope. therefore, to influence by their arguments the two English-speaking judges. It remains to be seen what effect can be produced on the mind of the foreign judges by the pleadings of General Cushing and Mr. W. M. Evarts on one side, and by Sir Roun dell Palmer and his coadjutors on the other side. All the voluminous mass of evidence, as well as the "case" itself, were translated into French. Parisian lawvers of note have been employed for the

sian lawyers of note have been employed for the purpose, and last, but not least, it may be mentioned that Mr. Bancroft Davis is an experienced French scholar. It has been not inaptly suggested that the difficulty might have found a solution by following the example of theologians. The whole, it was thought, might have been translated into Latin, that being a language all lawyers, irrespective of nationality, are supposed to know.

Hon. Charles Francis Adams resides as yet at the Hotel des Bergues. He has the intention of retiring to a villa during his stay at Geneva, but in view of the actual state of things I believe he has not completed the bargain as yet. The villa is one lately occupied by Mr. Gallatin, of New York, situated on the lake, a short drive from Geneva, in one of the lovellest spots. Mr. Adams is accompanied by his family, and apparently enjoys the rest which he is now taking. On my calling yesterday he expressed a hope that he would not be interviewed, for if such were my intentions he could only tell me that he had no more knowledge of what was doing than he presumed a HeralD correspondent would already possess. He would rather, he added, look to me for news, as he had really none to give. Mr. Adams conversed cheerfully on current topics, but it struck me that he was somewhat doubtful as to whether the proceedings in the British Parliament had the tendency of saving the treaty.

Mr. Adams dined with the Prince of Wales when the latter passed through this city, and British subjects are echoing with apparent satisfaction the laudatory remarks which his koyal Highness made respecting Mr. Adams. Of course we are entirely in the dark what shape matters may assume by the loth of this month. There have been some idle rumors about postponement, but those familiar with the terms of the treaty are fully aware that such is impossible. The Court must assemble on Saturday next. Whatever course England may decide on, whether the protest regarding the so-called indirect claims will be withdrawn, or whether b

FISH AND GRANVILLE.

Their Despatches about the Washington Treaty Reduced to an Amusing Dia-logue—The Finale of the Anglo-American Farce.

[From La Patrie June 11.] In spite of all the efforts of the administration of General Grant to conceal the disadvantages of th Treaty of Washington they did not escape the attention of some sagacious American statesmen. As the time stipulated for the meeting of the arbitrating com.

evident that several clauses in the treaty would meet with great opposition in the Senate. Mr. Fish thought to avoid the difficulty by surreptitiously in-troducing in the "case," to be submitted to the arbitrators, a modest claim amounting to some-thing like five milliards (francs) for indirect damages. Strange and incredible! But it was only after six weeks that the British Foreign office perceived the interpolation of the claim for five milliards.

spatches, which have just been published by the New York Herald, and which have kept the two worlds in suspense for more than a month.

New York Herald, and which have kept the twe worlds in suspense for more than a month. We give the substance of the dialogue between Lord Granville and Mr. Fish, which at times is very drell and amusing.

Lord Granville—Are you really in earnest about your demand for indirect damages? You know well enough that they have not been included in the treaty.

Mr. Fish—But no. I don't know anything of the sort. If it, however, puts you to inconvenience we can agree to a sum in gross, and don't let us go out of the way for such a trifle.

Lord Granville—A trifle! How you talk! We shall give you nothing for indirect damages, neither in gross nor in detail.

Mr. Fish—How untractable you are! Well, then, don't get angry. We are bons enfants. If the claim for five milliards frightens you we shall reduce it by one, or two, or three milliards. You understand, my dear fellow, that we didn't expect five milliards. That was only a figure of speech.

Lord Granville—Neither a milliard nor, indeed, a penny. Withdraw your claim, or all is broken off. Mr. Fish—All are dispussing. En. Neen's obe 1s; we shall not insist at Geneva on those indirect damages. Now, then, are you satisfied?

Lord Granville—Not at all. What guarantee have I that you will not insist on them at Geneva? I can't take too many precautions after the scurvy trick you wanted to play me.

Mr. Fish—All right. You'll get your guarantee. Let us exchange notes, by which we shall mutually engage not to claim indirect damages, no matter if one of us should be a belligerent and the other a neutral.

Lord Granville—That isn't enough. The quest has the tall.

If one of us should be a belligerent and the other a neutral.

Lo d Granville—That isn't enough. The question is not about the future, but about the past. Besides, in that case, what will become of our fine phrases about the principle of arbitration and the strict observance of neutrality.

Mr. Fisn—A fig for our fine phrases! Let us save the treaty, or we are lost.

Lord Granville—I am willing enough. But you must first withdraw your claim, and then we shall make a new agreement about principles.

Mr. Fish—Withdraw! No modify, Yes! I repeat it, let us exchange notes, suppressing these indirect damages.

Lord Granville—How often shall I tell you your notes are not sufficient. We must have a supplemental treaty and withdrawal of the claim, or nothing.

ng.
Mr. Fish—We have not the right to make a sup-plemental treaty without consulting the Senate.
Lord Granville—Eh, bien saprisit! Consult the

Senate, Mr. Pish—You are right. That's a capital idea We shall consult the Senate; but that will be a hard ordeal to pass.

Lord Granville—Very well; but don't forget to withdraw these consequential damages.

Mr. Fish—How obstinate you are! What's the use of worrying. If I tell you that we shall make an supplemental treaty what more do you want?

Lord Granville—That's all right. But here is the text of the supplemental treaty. It must pass into as it is.

the text of the supplemental treaty. It must paint as it is.

Mr. Fish—Suppose, now, we leave the question of indirect claims open until next year and then have it settled by a nice little commission. This would keep us both in the Ministry.

Lord Granvill.E—Oh, bother! None of your bad jokes, my dear fellow.

Mr. Fish—Well, well; we shall try to carry through your supplemental treaty. But if you think that it will be easy to swallow for the Senate and the nation you are mistaken.

that it will be easy to swallow for the Senate and the nation you are mistaken.

Lord Granville—That's all the same to me. A supplemental, or all is broken off.

Mr. Fish—it will pass, this confounded supplemental, but with some very slight modifications.

Lord Granville—Let us see those modifications.

But I tell you in advance I won't be humbugged.

Here the dialogue stops. To judge by the last declarations of Lord Granville in Parliament the denouement of the Anglo-American farce is approaching, or, at least, the curtain falls on the second act, probably to rise again upon the final haggling scene, when the Americans will have to pay, instead of receiving, and Congress will have to ratify and carry out the decision of the arbitrators.

BROOKLYN EDUCATION.

Opinion of the Rink Reformers as to the

Necessity for New Schoolhouses.

The Rink Reform Committee has been looking over the estimates of the Board of Education for the year 1873, and finds that there is no necessity for the further expenditure proposed upon new school buildings. The committee reports as follows:-

buildings. The committee reports as follows:—

The schedulge of expenditures for the support of the schools during the year 1873, as recently submitted to the Board of Estimate, asks for \$731,000 (see their report) appropriation from the city, in addition to the State fund, which this year is estimated at \$300,000, and in addition to the \$300,000 authorized by the Legislature for building purposes and the last year's balance of \$88,447, making a total of \$1,114,668 for the year 1873, being about \$422,000 more than was the total expenditure of last year.

Of this \$1,114,658 the Commissioners of Education propose expending \$229,000 (in their estimate) and the \$90,000 above stated, making \$319,000 for schoolhouse purposes during the ensuing year.

That this formidable sum of \$1,114,658 is not necessary may be interred from the following exposition:—During the five preceding years there has been expended for the

pose expending \$229,000 (in their estimate) and the \$00,000 above stated, making \$319,000 for schoolhouse purposes during the ensuiny years.

That this formidable sum of \$1,114,658 is not necessary may be interred from the following exposition:—During the two preceding years there has been expended for the houses \$200,000 from the city for the houses \$270,000 (see same report).

In the schedule of purposes, presented by the Board of Education for the year 1571, they asked for an appropriation of \$280,000 from the city for sites and houses (see report of Board of Estimate of that year), in addition to the \$20,000 authorized by act of the Legislature for the same purposes, ampunting to \$470,000 which sum, however, the Board of Estimate reduced so materially that instead of spending \$470,000 the Board of Education limited their disbursements for these purposes during that year to about \$70,000 (see their report 1872, table No. D.

That there was no serious inconvenience for want of accommodation for the children is deducible from the tendance (see their report, 1872, appendix, page 13, table 3).

A startling fact exhibited by the several yearly reports is that, whereas the average annual expenditure for schoolnouse purposes during the three years preceding 1876 was only \$60,000, the disbursements for the same purposes during 1867 and the three succeeding years averaged \$229,000 per annum (see report 1872, page 16, table 6), being an increase of nearly 380 per cent within three and a half years while during the same three and a half years the average daily number of scholars increased only \$3,200 and the three reports of the same purposes during the three years preceding 1877, bag and increase of nearly 380 per cent within three and a half years while during the same three and a half years the average daily number of scholars increased only \$3,200 per annum (see report 1872, page 18, table 6).

The amount of money alleged to be necessary for buying lots and building schoolhouses appears very large. \$27,000 addition

withstanding this large reduction in withstanding this large reduction. The schools were as satisfactorily conducted as during any previous year.

Among the forty-five members of the Board of Education there is no reason to doubt there are as many pure-minded men as among the same number in any other department of society, but the expositions herein contained give strength to the censure expressed by Mayor Kalbeleisch, in his message of June 6, 1870, in relation to the transactions of the Board of Education, that "the mercet tyro in arithmetic must, on examination of these figures, become at once convinced that there is a screw loose somewhere."

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT. Monday night last a gang of roughs went into the

liquor store kept by Thomas Vaughey, at the corner f Elizabeth and Spring streets, and after getting several drinks refused to pay for them. Vaughey remonstrated with them, when they began beating im in a most brutal manner. Seeing that his life was endangered Vaughey drew a revolver and discharged the contents towards the crowd, but unfortunately did not hit any of them. One shot, how-ever, took effect in the thigh of Ann McDonald, who chanced to be passing at the time. Vaughey was arrested and yesterday morning taken before Judge Hogan, who committed him to await the result of the woman's injuries.

THE TWO ALLENS.

What Do the Initials E. A. Stand For? ASTOR HOUSE, NEW YORK, June 25, 1872.

To the Editor of the Herald:—
I am no descendant of the late Colonel Ethan Allen of Revolutionary fame, nor am I such an Egohis insulting letter of this perning.

Respectfully.

ETHAN ALLEN.